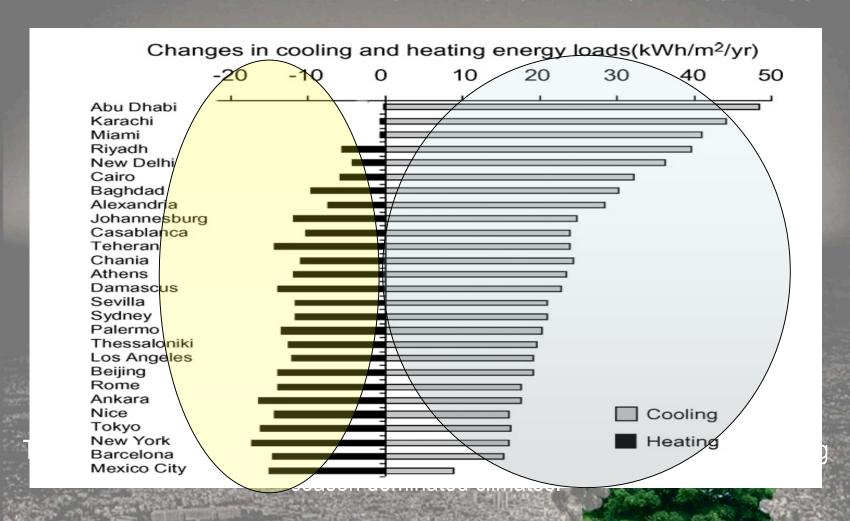
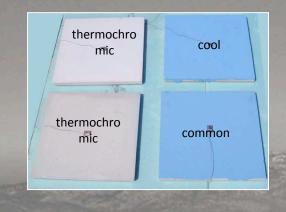
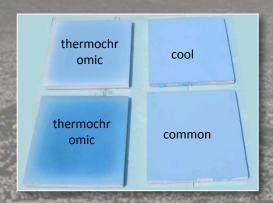


#### **ENERGY IMPACT OF REFLECTIVE COATINGS**



A. Synnefa, M. Santamouris and H.Akbari: Estimating the effect of using cool coatings on energy loads and thermal comfort in residential buildings in various climatic conditions, Energy and Buildings, 39,11, 1167-1174, 2007



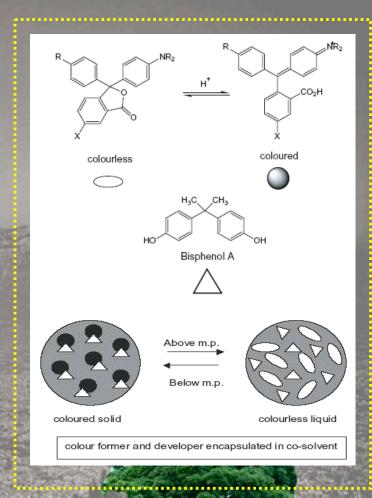


Thermochromic coatings change color as a function of the ambient temperature. For low outdoor temperatures, winter, the coatings may be dark presenting a high absorptivity. For higher ambient temperatures, summer, the coating becomes white presenting a high reflectivity. Thus, when applied on roofs or walls it may present the best performance all year round

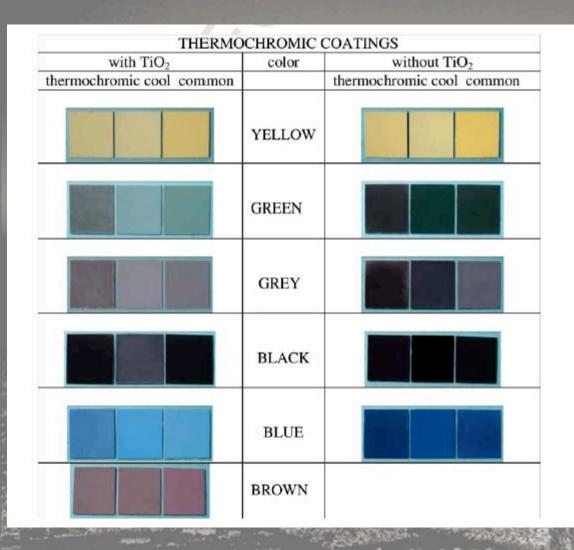
Thermochromism is the reversible colour change of a substance induced by temperature change.

#### Composition of organic thermochromic dyes

- the color former: usually a cyclic ester which determines the color of the final product in its colored state
- the color developer:
  usually a weak acid that imparts the reversible
  color change to the thermochromic material and is
  responsible for the color intensity of the final
  product
- the solvent: usually an alcohol or an ester, whose melting point controls the temperature at which the color change occurs

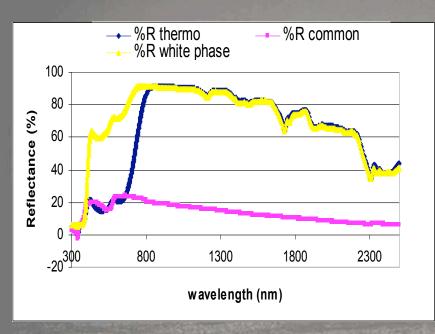


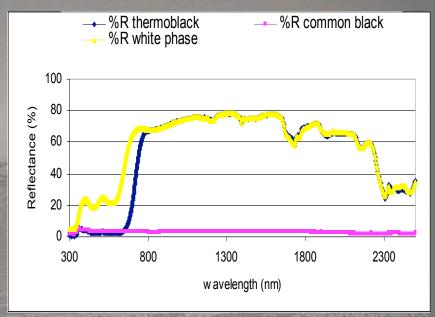
T. Karlessi, M. Santamouris<sup>,</sup> K. Apostolakis, A.Synnefa I. Livada : Development and Testing of Thermochromic coatings for Buildings and Urban Structures, Solar Energy, 2008



Several
thermochromic
coatings have
been developed
using different
types of
thermochromic
basic materials

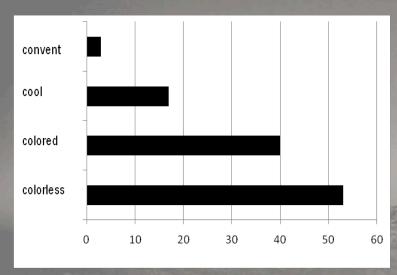


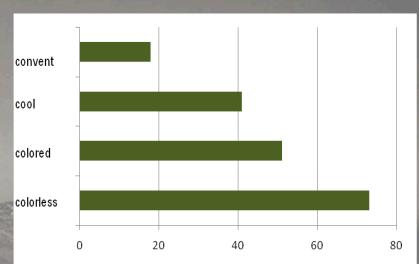


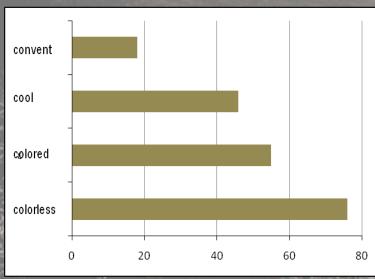


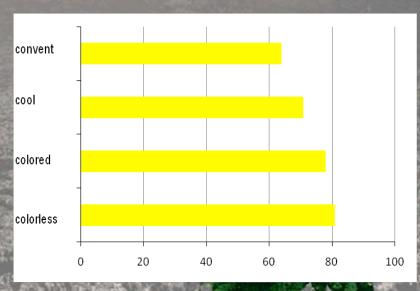
Thermochromic coatings present a high reflectivity both in the visible and infrared spectrum, while present very strong absorption in the near-ultraviolet range of the spectrum.

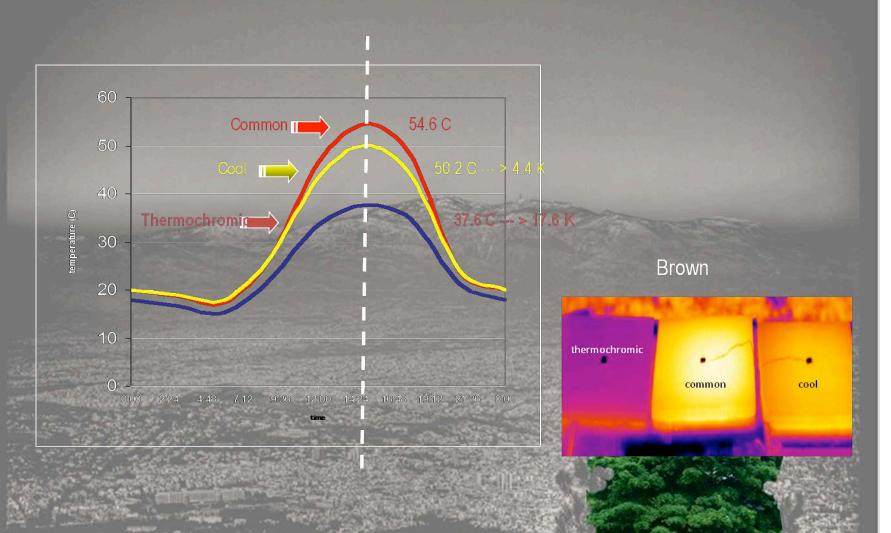
T. Karlessi, M. Santamouris<sup>,</sup> K. Apostolakis, A.Synnefa I. Livada : Development and Testing of Thermochromic coatings for Buildings and Urban-Structures, Solar Energy, 2008



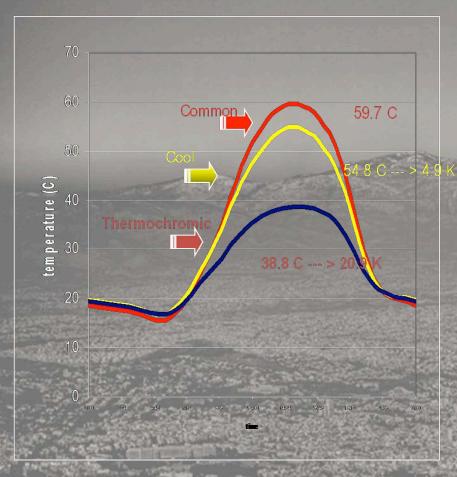


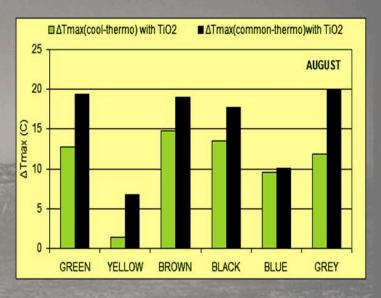


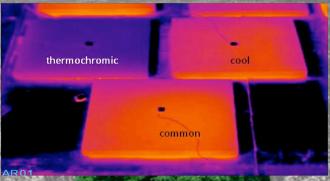




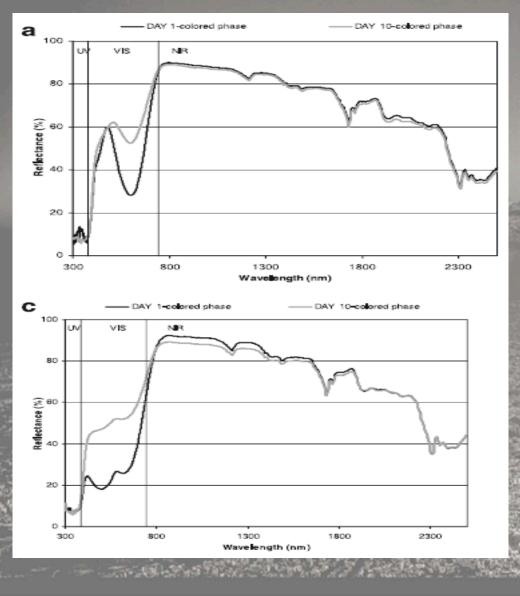
T. Karlessi, M. Santamouris K. Apostolakis, A.Synnefa I. Livada : Development and Testing of Thermochromic coatings for Buildings and Urban Structures, Solar Energy, 2008







T. Karlessi, M. Santamouris<sup>,</sup> K. Apostolakis, A.Synnefa I. Livada<sup>,</sup> Development and Testing of **Thermochromic coatings for Buildi**ngs and Urban **Structures**, **Sol**ar Energy, 2008



Important problem of ageing

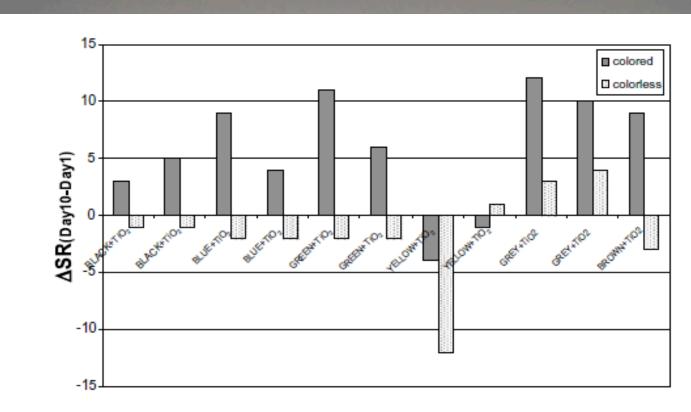
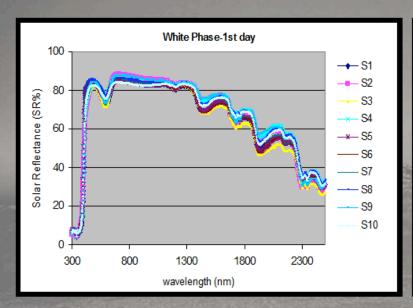
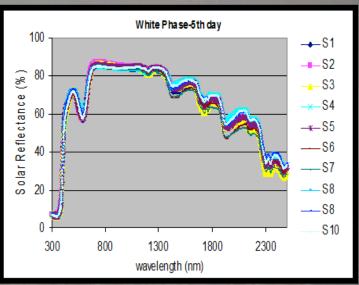


Fig. 11. Solar reflectance difference (ΔSR) between 1st and 10th day for thermochromic coatings.

Important problem of ageing. After almost one week, loose their initial optical characteristics. In particular, loose their ability to change color and their reflectivity is stabilised.

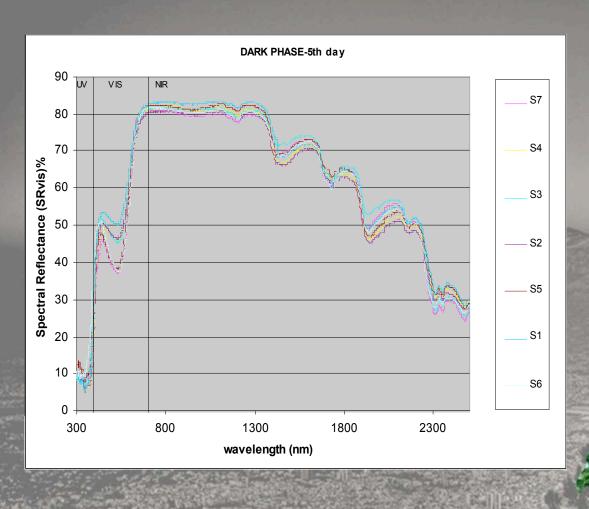




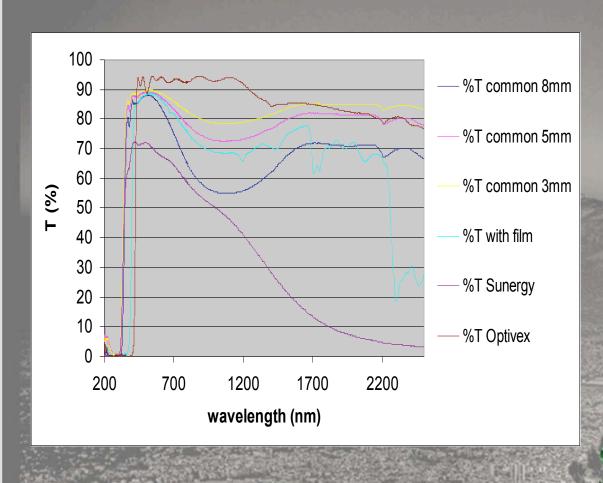


Important problem of ageing. When UV Absorbers are added in the thermochromic paints, the optical efficiency is not improving and the ageing problems remain

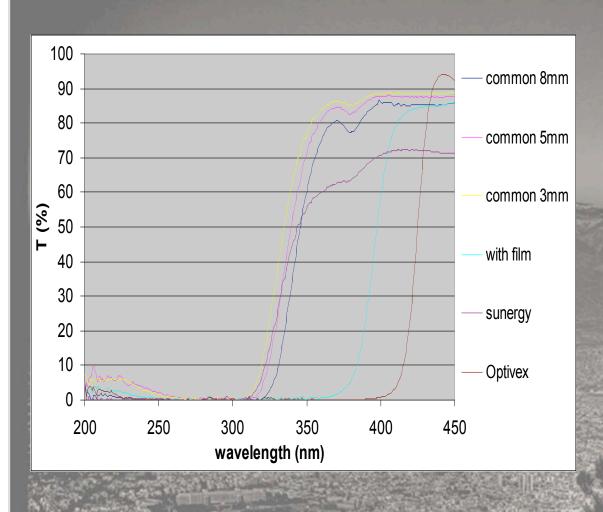




When UV protectors are placed on the surface of the coatings, (cascade techniques), the optical efficiency is improved but still the problem of ageing is important

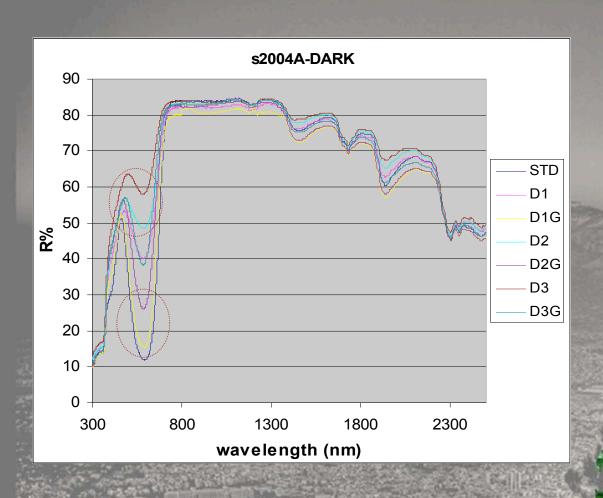


Use of full UV filters. Full UV filters present a UV transmissivity close to zero



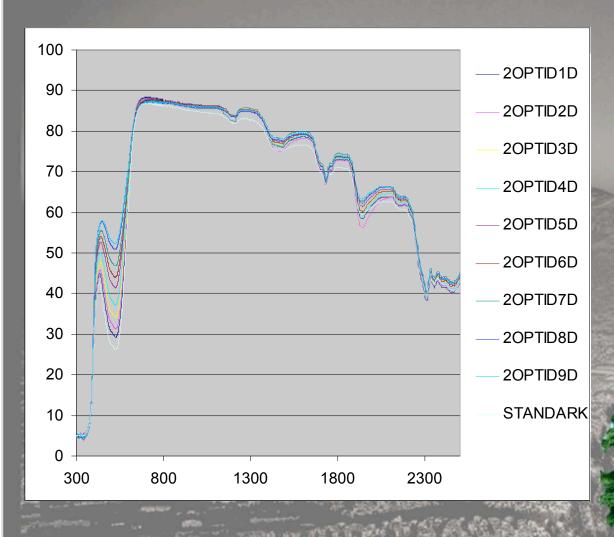
Use of full UV filters. Full UV filters present a UV transmissivity close to zero



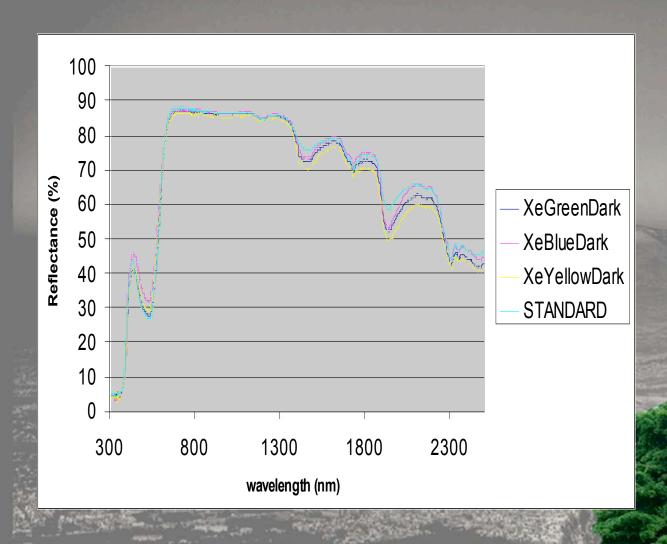


Use of full UV filters.
Full UV filters present a
UV transmissivity close
to zero.

Although the optical performance improves considerably, the problem remains.



Even with 2 full layers of UV protecting films the problem of ageing is important.



UV and visble optical filtering techniques have been used using different coating techniques. The results after one month of accelerating ageing are very promising

Thermochromic Coatings present important advantages. Can increase reflectivity during the warm period while present high absorptivity during winter.

Thermochromic coatings have been prepared and tested in the outdoor environment. Their thermal performance found to be excellent.

However, thermochromic coatings present a very serious problem of optical ageing.

The results of various unsuccessful scientific efforts to improve their optical performance have been presented.

Use of optical filtering techniques have been employed and the results are very promising.

